

COVERUPS!

Number 13

Gary Mack, Editor & Publisher

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NEW EVIDENCE SURFACES FOR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

by Gary Mack

New evidence in the form of photos and scientific analysis has appeared in time for the twentieth anniversary, but the best is yet to come. Due soon is a detailed response to the Ramsey Report from Dr. James Barger, Chief Scientist for the HSCA's acoustics evidence, and further computer enhancement of the Moorman photo.

According to an ABC/Washington Post poll conducted this month, 80 percent of the American people believe there was a conspiracy to kill JFK. That compares with 81 percent in a 1975 survey.

Soon, perhaps in January, we will demonstrate beyond any reasonable doubt that there were at least two gunmen in Dealey Plaza.

The aborted study of the Moorman picture, as mentioned in Briefs last issue, took place at a major eastern university, one with long ties to CIA and other military and intelligence agencies. Before suddenly and mysteriously refusing to continue, the key scientist expressed his opinion that the figure is definitely a person. As first revealed in Coverups more than one year ago, there is what appears to be a gunman directly behind the retaining wall standing, elevated, behind the picket fence.

The news organization Jack White and I are involved with is attempting to arrange for another facility to duplicate and expand upon the original work. With vacations and holidays in progress, nothing will happen until at least January.

Whether the Moorman picture presents a threat to the acoustics evidence is not known, but Dr. Barger's point-by-point refutation of the National Science Foundation's Ramsey Report is due in the next few weeks. The reason for the delay is simple: this is not a Bolt, Beranek & Newman project, but rather the result of work by Barger and his colleagues in their spare time.

Also due soon is a statement from the Justice Department about the status of any further investigations. It was reportedly set to appear by November 22, but that was changed to later this year.

Very discouraging, though, was a report from Itek to CBS on the Bronson film. In the first of a three-part series, shown November 7 on the CBS Evening News, reporter Terry Drinkwater (a witness to the RFK assassination) said:

Recently, conspiracy advocates have pinned their hopes on these blurry, never fully analyzed pictures from a home movie, taken minutes before the shooting. Some thought they could detect movement of not one, but several people in the sixth floor windows of the Texas School Book Depository. But the Itek Corporation, photoenhancement experts, studied the film for CBS News and decided that whatever movement there is was caused by jumping of the film in the camera, and not by shadowy figures behind the window panes.

This was the first scientific analysis of the Bronson film, a key factor in attorney John Sigalos' decision to make it available. Several days prior to broadcast an Itek scientist called Sigalos with the results. Not mentioned on CBS was that Itek used only 30 nonconsecutive frames of the total 92 and completely ignored the colors in the windows. Itek spotted a person standing inside the glass front door of the TSBD (Lovelady again?) and used him as a reference point—that image was visible in all frames, whereas the sixth floor images disappeared partially or completely in several frames. That, in the opinion of Itek, ruled out the possibility of anyone being visible in those windows.

When Drinkwater and the CBS crew came to my house for an interview they made it clear they were interested in the Bronson film. I explained that even after five years we could only speculate about the images because no scientific study had been done, even though the HSCA encouraged a Justice Department study in its Final Report. I also stressed, both on and off camera, that the apparent movement in the windows was secondary to the colors.

Color photos taken minutes after the shooting clearly show only boxes behind the windows and they all had the typical, very light brown color—not the magenta, blue and green photo expert Robert Groden had seen. Therefore, only people could account for the colors. Still, Itek avoided the issue and even supplied CBS with black & white enhancements.

The other important omission was an analysis of the film grain. Back in October 1978, Earl Golz and I flew to New Jersey with the original Bronson film for Groden's inspection. He immediately noticed that the grain of the film was interfering with the images to a greater or lesser extent in almost every frame. But that was to be expected, because the windows take up such a tiny space in the frame. In fact, each window is about half the size of a pin head!

Itek's study seems, at best, incomplete; at worst, it is highly suspect. Others have charged that Itek, which is run by a "former" CIA man, has analyzed JFK films and photos just the way the government wants. This latest effort does nothing to allay that suspicion.

But there may be some justice after all. Though Drinkwater used none of my interview, he did show me switching on my movie projector. Then he cut to the actual Bronson film as it was projected onto my living room wall. The nameless editor inserted the sequence where the film was being run backwards. Shown on network tv was Bronson's shot of the motorcade moving backwards down Houston and moving backwards on Main from Houston!

The good news is that another scientist, upset by the Itek analysis, may do a second, more thorough study.

Tremendous amounts of new and different information came out for the anniversary. Magazines and newspapers did special articles and supplements, while television produced hours and hours of real and quasi-documentaries. All of the relevant information will appear in coming issues of *Coverups!*

The limousine photo on page 6 is by O.B. Ashmore. His slide is one of many collected by Anita Gewertz who, along with her husband Rudy, started the Dallas Cinema Associates. The DCA film, a collection of color home movies from Love Field to Parkland, is an invaluable record of November 22, 1963. The second group, which was to have been a collection of color stills, was never completed. While not readily apparent in this reproduction, that's Clint Hill's foot dangling out the right side of the limousine as he climbs in. Another photo taken seconds later from the right-hand side has always been incorrectly labeled as showing JFK's foot.

The startling photo on page 1 was the second of two taken by Dallas Times Herald employee Mel McIntire. He was shooting regular Kodak 120 color film, did not hear any shots, and has never done anything with his pictures. Twenty years later, and important photographs are still turning up!

The first picture (elsewhere in this issue) shows the limousine passing Chief Curry and also the Hertz sign with the 12:30 time still visible. Jack Daniel is just barely seen leaning against the post supporting the first overhead sign.

The second picture reveals the passenger car on the train tracks just north of the Triple Underpass. Look at the top of the TSBD, just between the S of School and the R of Rent and you'll spot a shadowy figure on the roof. A person? And how about the fifth and sixth floor windows—is anyone visible in any of them?

These pictures also settle beyond doubt whether or not Dan Rather was really west of the Underpass as he claimed. He wasn't!

Unfortunately, the pictures also cast doubt on Officer Tom Tilson's story that there was a black car, that he later chased, parked on the grass.

Next issue, more on the new evidence and the tv documentaries, including "The Kennedy Tapes," over 15 hours of WFAA-TV tapes broadcast in two all-night marathons.

DMN 11-25-83

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TODAY IN HISTORY: In 1963, President John F. Kennedy was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. In 1966, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said there was no evidence of a conspiracy to assassinate Kennedy.
■

By Bert L. Rohrer
Staff Writer of The News

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS NOVEMBER 20, 1983

OSWALD

THE LONER

Forever An Enigma

Had he known Lee Harvey Oswald a little better, Wesley Frazier would have realized that Oswald wasn't the type to worry about curtains.

Frazier knew only that Oswald was the guy whose daughters and estranged wife lived at his Irving neighbor's house, a guy who worked with him filling orders at the Texas School Book Depository. And Oswald occasionally rode to and from work with Frazier when he was visiting his family.

Oswald didn't talk much, Frazier recalls now. He'd chat about kids or traffic conditions, but never politics.

"Lee, to me, was a very quiet person," Frazier says. "He didn't have an outgoing personality, but he was always nice to me."

Frazier — then 19 and a self-described "country boy" from Huntsville — had been working at the book depository only a few months. He lived with his sister, Linnie Mae Randall, and her husband, Marina Oswald, Lee's Russian wife, stayed with the Randalls' neighbor, Ruth Paine.

Mrs. Paine had mentioned to Mrs. Randall a few weeks earlier that Marina's husband needed a job. Frazier said that the book depository needed workers.

On Wednesday, Nov. 20, 1963, Oswald asked Frazier for a ride to Irving the following afternoon. That was odd, Frazier thought, because Oswald usually visited his family only on weekends.

"I said, well, tomorrow's not Friday," Frazier remembers. "But he said, 'Yes, I know, tomorrow's Thursday.' But he said, 'This weekend I won't be going home on Friday.'"

"He gave me the excuse then. He said that he had an apartment, and he was coming home to get some curtain rods, that Marina had made some curtains or he had bought some curtains for his apartment."

Life had been difficult for Lee and Marina Oswald. He'd had trouble holding a job, and they had lived in grinding poverty in a series of small apartments in Fort Worth and Dallas. Marina said later that Oswald always seemed angry and more interested in his leftist causes than in supporting his family.

He had terrified her a few months earlier by claiming responsibility for an attempt to shoot retired Major Gen. Edwin A. Walker, an outspoken ultraconservative living in Dallas. Oswald wouldn't allow his wife to learn English, and he threatened to take her back to the Soviet Union — where they had met and married.

Oswald, who was 24 in 1963, had defected to the Soviet Union in 1959 and attempted to renounce his U.S. citizenship. A former Marine Corps radar operator, he was given a job at a factory in Minsk. He requested and received permission to re-enter the United States in 1962.

By November 1963, the couple had separate residences. Marina refused to live with Oswald in Dallas and was living with Mrs. Paine in Irving. Oswald had a small furnished room in Oak Cliff.

Ruth Paine had met the Oswalds at a party earlier in the year. She had learned Russian in school, and Marina offered to tutor her. The women became close friends, and later, when Oswald went to New Orleans to look for work, Mrs. Paine invited Marina and her toddler daughter, June, to stay at her house. In late October, Marina had her second daughter, Rachel.

"She was isolated, and we had in common children of similar age, which is its own kind of isolation," says Mrs. Paine,

who now lives in Florida and works as a school psychologist. "My husband and I had separated, so life was really quite boring. It was a pleasure for me to have her come and stay."

Lee Oswald was another matter, Mrs. Paine says. When he was at the house on weekends, the Oswalds frequently bickered.

"They argued about petty things," she says. "It was easy to guess that he felt very vulnerable economically."

"Later I learned that he had hit her. It didn't occur to me that he did or would have. I didn't know, I didn't think that he would be violent. I proved to be wrong about that."

Oswald had not visited the Paine home the previous weekend, and he had not called during the week. But something curious did happen that week. Ruth Paine tried to call Oswald at his rooming house in Oak Cliff, using the phone number he had given them.

Neither Mrs. Paine nor Marina knew he had registered under the name "O.H. Lee," and Mrs. Paine was told there was no Lee Oswald living there.

The next day, Mrs. Paine says, Lee called and Marina told him about the telephone call.

She remembers that Lee "chewed Marina out for calling him at the number he had given us."

"I began wondering about how well he was tied together."

When Mrs. Paine came home from the grocery store Thursday evening, Oswald was on the front lawn playing with June. He helped Mrs. Paine carry groceries into the house.

"I said, 'Our president is coming,' to him (in Russian) as he was walking in. And he really didn't say anything. He just sort of brushed on by. That was sort of like him, so I didn't take any special notice of it at the time."

Marina — now Mrs. Kenneth Porter — says today she thought it strange that her husband refused to discuss Kennedy's visit.

"Whenever I asked him about the president, he would, you know, switch the subject — he wouldn't talk about it. I think that makes him look guilty now."

Mrs. Paine recalls very little conversation that Thursday evening. But Marina says, "It was a rotten night because we argued over his not using his real name. I was embarrassed by it."

At some point during the evening, Oswald went into the two-bedroom home's garage. Mrs. Paine went into the garage later, and noticed that he had left a light burning.

Oswald apparently didn't mention curtain rods that night. But wrapped in a blanket in the garage, the FBI determined later, was a 6.5mm Mannlicher-Carcano rifle, an Italian army weapon he'd purchased from a Chicago mail-order firm for \$21.45.

The two women recall that Oswald went to bed early, about 9 p.m. But Mrs.

Porter says she doesn't believe he went to sleep until around 5 a.m.

The alarm clock failed to rouse him, and his wife had to awaken him. He told her not to make his breakfast, which she thought was strange — she never made his breakfast. He left \$170 — almost all he had — on the dresser.

He also left his wedding ring in an antique cup Marina had brought from the Soviet Union.

Mrs. Paine awoke later. The house was so quiet that she thought Oswald had overslept. Then she saw the white plastic coffee cup in the sink and realized he already had left for work.

"He came down that morning as I was sitting eating my breakfast," says Frazier. Oswald was carrying a 2-foot-long package wrapped in brown paper.

"When I came out to get into the car I glanced over and saw a package in the back seat. I said, 'What's that?' And he said, 'You remember, that's the curtain rods I was going to bring in.'"

Frazier pointed the black, four-door 1954 Chevrolet sedan toward Route 183, then toward Stemmons Freeway and Downtown Dallas.

"It was kind of misting rain that morning, because I could see it on the windshield," he said. "I had to use the windshield wipers periodically."

"Everybody knew by that time that President Kennedy was coming to Dallas, and he would be coming down (past the book depository) on the parade route. As we rode to work that morning, we talked about it. I said it may not be a good day for a parade. A lot of people had never seen an American president, and a lot of people were very excited about that."

When they arrived at the parking lot, Frazier noticed that his car's battery needed charging. They were early for work, so Frazier decided to sit and rev the engine for a few minutes. Oswald removed his paper-wrapped package from the back seat and walked alone to the building.

Frazier recalls seeing Oswald later that morning, filling book orders on the building's fifth and sixth floors, where they usually worked.

The firm received orders for textbooks from Texas school districts. Oswald and Frazier picked up orders on the first floor, rode a freight elevator to the upper floors, where the books were stored, and brought them down on dollies for shipment.

In Irving, Ruth Paine turned on the television as soon as she arose that morning. She watched Kennedy's speech in Fort Worth, then took the children to the dentist about 10 a.m. She returned about 11:30, and she and Marina settled on the couch to watch the president's motorcade on television.

"He was the first president I had voted for who had won," she says. "I really liked what he was doing, and it was such an appealing family."

At the book depository, several people asked the supervisor if they could watch the parade during their lunch hour.

"He said, 'Sure. You don't get to see an American president every day,'" Frazier recalls.

As for Oswald, he says, "I saw him a short time before the parade, but I didn't see him any during the parade."

Nor — it seems — did anyone else. Investigators say Oswald stacked book boxes so that anyone who came on the sixth floor could not see him crouching at the eastern-most window on the south side. He stacked other boxes just in front of the window, they said.

Frazier was standing on the book depository's steps, and he got a clear view of President and Mrs. Kennedy when they passed by. He did not see the assassination.

"I heard the shots. A lot of people thought it was the backfire from a motorcycle. The motorcycle patrolmen that day — you could tell they were happy even though they were (all) business, because they were getting close to the freeway, and they knew they had done their jobs. I think they'd begun to relax, and they were playing around with their motorcycles."

"But then there were two (shots) in rapid succession, and people began to realize there was something going on that wasn't supposed to have been going on," Frazier says. "People began to scream and run."

Frazier went back inside the building, still unsure of what had happened.

"Someone came running up the stairs, a lady who worked upstairs, and she said, 'They have shot and killed the president.' It never occurred to me that anyone in the building would be connected with anything like that."

The way Mrs. Paine remembers it, Marina Oswald was in the backyard hanging up clothes when a television announcer reported that the shots had come from the Texas School Book Depository. Marina's memory differs: "Ruth came in (to the bedroom, where Marina was dressing) and told me they were saying that the shots came from the building where Lee works, and this frozen feeling came over me," she says today.

"I knew it might be him. I ran outside and started hanging up diapers so she (Ruth) wouldn't see my face turn red. I was flushed."

"I went to the garage to see if the gun was still there, and I was glad to see it was. Of course, I didn't look in the sack, and you know when the police came it wasn't in the sack."

Mrs. Paine said Marina never showed any of that fear to her.

"My thought when I first heard that was that it's Friday, he'll (Oswald) probably come out for the weekend as normal," Mrs. Paine says. "We'll probably hear from him what he saw as a person who had been in that area."

In the commotion, investigators say, Oswald walked out of the building. The rifle remained near the sixth-floor window. He boarded a bus, they learned later, then took a taxi to Oak Cliff and walked to his rooming house. He put on a jacket, stuck a pistol in his belt, and quickly walked out again.

A few minutes later, a man later identified as Oswald fatally shot Patrolman J.D. Tippit as the officer questioned him on the street.

Another witness saw a suspicious-looking man run into the Texas Theater in Oak Cliff without buying a ticket. Police were called.

At the book depository, the building

manager and the police determined that Oswald was missing. All the other employees were accounted for, and none knew anything about the slaying, police decided.

About 2 p.m., Frazier says, the workers were allowed to leave. Frazier decided to visit his stepfather, a patient in an Irving hospital. On the way, he turned on the car radio. A news reporter was describing a suspect in the assassination.

"Riding along, I said, 'Oh, God, that can't be true.' But the description they gave of him — I knew that fit Lee."

While other officers scoured the Texas School Book Depository, 16 policemen converged on the Texas Theater looking for Tippit's killer. Assistant Dist. Atty. Bill Alexander joined them.

"En route over there, the police radio was broadcasting that Oswald was missing, and we were also getting a description of the man who shot Tippit," Alexander recalls today.

After a brief struggle, Oswald was subdued and arrested. He was taken to police headquarters for questioning, but he denied committing the slayings.

At the Irving hospital, a nurse told Frazier he had a telephone call. But, he wondered, how could he have a call? He hadn't told anyone he was going to the hospital.

"As I stepped out of the room, I was detained by two policemen." They were detectives Gus Rose and Richard Stovall.

"I was very frightened, and I nearly panicked," Frazier said. "If I would have run and panicked, that would have been a very big mistake for me."

He said the detectives later became two of his closest friends.

"At first, I think they treated me very sharp. I realize now that I'm older that they had a lot of pressure on them, and they had to perform."

At first, Ruth Paine didn't realize the seriousness of the situation. Rose, other Dallas officers and sheriff's deputies showed up at her house in the late afternoon, and she invited them in.

"I was incensed at the police for not letting Marina change her clothes; they didn't want her to go anywhere they couldn't see her. The degree to which they had to deal with unknown people . . . came to me slowly."

They searched the house and, with the help of Mrs. Paine's Russian, they asked Marina if her husband owned a rifle. She said that he did. But after she pointed out the blanket in which he kept the rifle in the garage, the officers found that the gun was gone. Like Frazier, Mrs. Paine and Marina were taken to police headquarters for questioning.

By Friday night, authorities decided that Marina, Mrs. Paine and Frazier were not involved in the killings. They continued to interrogate Oswald with no success.

Assistant Dist. Atty. Alexander says he was "ugly, belligerent, aggressive, evasive."

"His method of answering a question was to ask a question — 'What are you arresting me for?' 'For shooting Officer Tippit.' 'Who's Officer Tippit?' — like that," Alexander recalls.

Former Dallas Detective M.G. Hall, who escorted Oswald from the time of his arrest until his death, says Oswald generally was talkative. The suspect told police "a little bit about what he did while he was in Russia and at the job there, in some factory or something."

"He'd carry on a normal type of conversation until one of us would mention shooting the president or Officer Tippit. He'd deny it, quite naturally. He was a shrewd customer. Oh, yeah, he was shrewd. He wasn't friendly, but casual."

Authorities say Oswald had not divulged any meaningful information by Sunday morning, when Jack Ruby killed him in the basement of the police station.

Oswald's death touched off a storm of speculation and conspiracy theories.

Even those who were close to Oswald hold widely varying opinions.

Frazier isn't certain that Oswald did it. But if Oswald did shoot the president, he believes, it was a conspiracy.

"I think if you're going to pull off something that big you have to have allies, conspirators," he says. "I don't think one man can come into a country such as America and assassinate the president by himself."

Ruth Paine says, "I think he did it, and I don't understand why. The conspiracy theories sort of rely on his being with other people, and he was rarely with other people."

"I never saw him have a serious personal relationship with anyone but Marina."

Rose says he believes the authorities would have cleared up the matter if Oswald had survived.

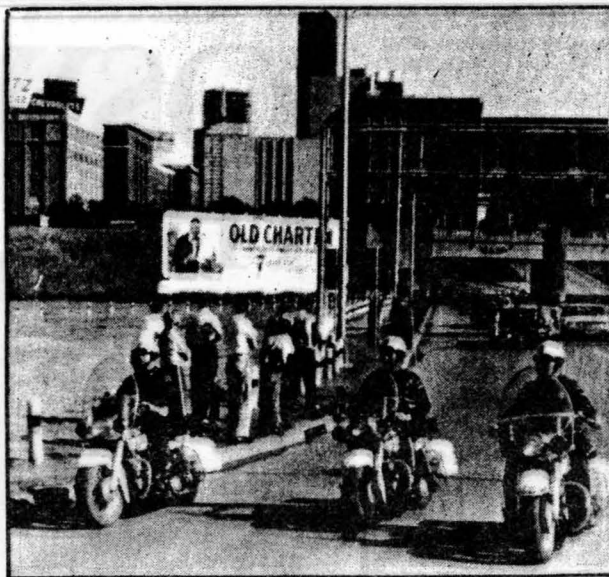
"I do believe he would have talked at the proper time," says Rose, now a captain in charge of investigations for the Dallas County Sheriff's Department. "I think he really intended to. To me, he was the typical assassin. He planned the assassination carefully; we even found maps he'd planned in the event the parade went in a different direction."

"But he didn't plan to escape."

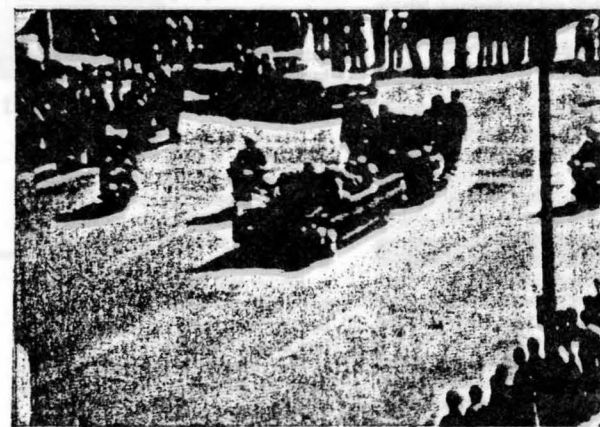


ELSIE DORMAN

(The original film is in the hands of son John, a Tenneco oil executive. HSCA consultant Robert Groden found two splices where the film had broken during use. Early in 1979, Groden, Jack White and I spotted a motorcycle officer who we thought was H.B. McLain, the one with the open mic. We believed the timing supported the acoustics evidence, but researcher Dick Sprague disagreed. The officer's identity is still in question, but if it is McLain, the acoustics evidence must be seriously flawed — the officer rounding the corner onto Elm, as seen in the Groden Exhibit in HSCA V, is probably J.W. Courson, who rode behind McLain. Dorman stopped filming just before the first shot, then filmed for a few seconds right after the last shot. JFK is only visible on Houston.)



DTH 11-20-83



Nov. 1, 1983, DALLAS TIMES HERALD

Elsie Dorman

Elsie Dorman of Dallas, who filmed the motorcade of President John Kennedy moments before he was assassinated, has died from liver failure in Midway Park Hospital at Lancaster. She was 76.

A graveside service for Mrs. Dorman, who died Sunday, is scheduled for 3 p.m. Wednesday in Restland Memorial Park.

Mrs. Dorman was standing on the fourth floor of the Texas School Book Depository on Nov. 22, 1963, filming the Kennedy motorcade as it came down Elm Street with a movie camera.

Her family said Mrs. Dorman stopped filming Kennedy when he passed in front of a tree that obstructed her view, and at that moment Lee Harvey Oswald shot Kennedy.

Her family said the FBI examined her film after the assassination. Life and Time magazines published pictures from the film. The film was also used by the House Select Committee on Assassinations in a re-enactment of the assassination in 1978.

At the time of the assassination, Mrs. Dorman was a secretary for Scott Foresman & Co., a publishing company that had offices on the fourth floor of the Depository.

Mrs. Dorman was born in Maine and moved to Dallas in 1951. She retired from Scott Foresman & Co. in 1971, after 25 years with the firm.

Survivors include two sons, John T. Dorman Jr. of Visalia, Calif., and James H. Dorman of Houston; and three grandchildren.

DMN 11-1-83

Elsie T. Dorman, who filmed shooting of JFK, to be buried

Graveside services for Elsie T. Dorman of Dallas, who filmed the assassination of President John F. Kennedy from a window in the Texas School Book Depository, will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Restland Memorial Park.

Mrs. Dorman, 76, died Sunday at Midway Park General Hospital in Lancaster after a short illness.

A native of Pembroke, Maine, she married John T. Dorman, an aircraft mechanic, in the late 1920s in Boston. The couple moved to Dallas in 1951. Dorman died in 1977.

Mrs. Dorman was a secretary for Scott Foresman & Co., a publishing firm, for 25 years. She retired in 1971.

On Nov. 22, 1963, she captured on film the assassination of Kennedy while she stood two floors below the site from which Lee Harvey Oswald fired the fatal shots, according to the Warren Commission. The film later was used by the FBI in its study of the assassination.

She is survived by two sons, John T. Dorman Jr. of Visalia, Calif., and James H. Dorman of Houston; a sister, Eugenie Gallagher of Walpole, Mass.; two brothers, John Smith of Maine and Ralph Smith of New Hampshire, and three grandchildren.

Files show how Oswald's mother tried to clear him

Special to The News

FORT WORTH — Lee Harvey Oswald's mother devoted the last 17 years of her life to trying to prove the existence of a conspiracy against her son.

The books, newspapers and magazines collected by Marguerite Oswald on the Kennedy assassination give testimony to her efforts. The collection is housed in Texas Christian University's Mary Couts Burnett Library, which will display some of the pieces in conjunction with the 20th anniversary of the assassination.

The centerpiece of the collection, which filled 30 boxes at the time of Mrs. Oswald's death in 1980, is the complete Warren Commission report, its volumes still holding her bookmarks and many of the books' margins filled with her handwritten notes.

The bookmarks range from a hand-crocheted strip to an empty envelope that bears the return address of the U.S. State Department. Some are cents-off coupons for bacon and cornbread mix.

The margin notes are those of a mother who clutched at straws trying to prove her son was an innocent pawn in an assassination conspiracy.

There is a lengthy FBI report of Oswald's arrest in New Orleans early in August of 1963 on a charge of disturbing the peace while he was distributing hand-

bills and placards for the Fair Play for Cuba committee. The report relates that Oswald and three others were arrested by three New Orleans policemen. Mrs. Oswald's comment is, "Look how many policemen involved."

With that report is another that says a relative of Oswald went to the New Orleans police station to determine the charge against him. It reports that the relative was reluctant to become involved in his release. On this report Mrs. Oswald wrote, "Not true, according to my niece's testimony."

Again and again the Fort Worth woman wrote remarks about Ruth Paine, with whom her daughter-in-law Marina was living in Irving at the time of the assassination. Beneath Mrs. Paine's testimony, Mrs. Oswald wrote, "You are involved and lying."

Ronald B. Fischer of the Dallas County auditor's office testified: "I do remember one peculiar thing happened just at the time I saw the man up there (on the fifth floor of the Texas School Book Depository). There was a girl walked in the Texas School Book Depository Building, a rather tall girl, and looked to me like she might be an employee in that building. She was walking in while everyone else had been coming out." Mrs. Oswald wrote, "A very tall girl. Mrs. Paine?"

She was also critical of Forrest V. Sor-

rels, special agent in charge of the Dallas division of the U.S. Secret Service. Beside his testimony she wrote such remarks as "Well trained. Very evasive, I know. I talked with him every day for about ten days." Again she wrote, alongside a reply from Sorrels stating he didn't remember something, "Evasive — don't recall. Baloney."

The Warren Commission report includes copies of articles written in 1959 by Priscilla Johnson, Moscow correspondent for North American Newspaper Alliance, in which she described Oswald's response to a question as "bitter." His mother's reaction was, "He had a dry sense of humor sometimes thought of as bitterness."

Mrs. Johnson's account of her interview with Oswald in Moscow closes with her asking him why he granted the interview. He replied, "I would like to give the people of the United States something to think about." He was, his mother's margin notes insisted, "concerned for all people."

Mrs. Oswald later wrote about Ms. Johnson, "After the assassination she took Marina over and wrote her book. Also Stalin's daughter. Why? U.S. agent? Or Russian? Anyhow Priscilla Johnson lies."

Mrs. Oswald also studied reproductions of photos purportedly taken of Oswald in

Minsk. One was indeed her son, she noted, but the other was not.

About Jack Ruby, Mrs. Oswald said, "My information shows that Ruby was an Israeli elite agent."

Her most vehement comment was reserved for a *Washington Star* reporter's testimony that he was told Ruby, prior to slaying Oswald on Nov. 24, had been to the Western Union office to wire \$25 to a girl in Fort Worth. Mrs. Oswald wrote, "Always Fort Worth. Remember that. From the very first before I knew any of this testimony I have known the plan started here in Fort Worth to frame my son. I just knew but now I have proof for my thoughts."

Among the books to be exhibited at TCU will be *Aftermath of an Execution*, the burial and final rites of Lee Harvey Oswald as told by his mother. The little volume, filled with pictures of the brief graveside rites at Rose Hill Cemetery, was published by Challenge Press of Dallas.

The Oswald exhibition in the library lobby will continue from Nov. 14 through 30. The library is open from 7:45 a.m. to midnight Monday through Thursday, 7:45 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and noon to midnight Sunday.

FWST 11-21-83

Oswald daughter 'free to see' papers

By DOUG CLARKE
Star-Telegram Writer

The two daughters of Lee Harvey Oswald claim they have been prevented from examining materials on their grandfather collected, but the Texas Christian University librarian says the daughters are free to see them.

Dr. Paul Parham said today that the materials, given to the school by Robert Oswald, Lee Harvey Oswald's brother and the women's uncle, is a collection of "about 30 or 40 boxes of materials."

"The Porter girls may examine the collection in my office if they want to," he said.

Oswald was accused of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963. June Oswald Porter, 21, Oswald's oldest daughter, says the papers were part of her late grandmother's library.

"No one, not even my sister and I, has been allowed to see the collection, she says.

The library consists of "probably the most complete collection of material concerning my father," she says in an article in the current issue of *People* magazine.

Porter, whose mother remarried when June was 3, says the papers were given to TCU after Oswald's mother, Marguerite,

died Jan. 17, 1981, without leaving a will. TCU received the collection about seven or eight months later, Parham said.

"Though we have fought to obtain possession of (Marguerite Oswald's library), the matter needs to be pursued through the courts," she says.

She also says she first discovered "the hatred people have for the name Oswald" as a freshman at the University of Texas when a roommate demanded that she move because "her father would not allow her life to be put in danger by living with me."

Porter now describes herself as an aspiring journalist attending a

university in the Northeast.

Apparently little in the collection is of historical importance, Parham said. "About 80 percent of it is magazines, magazine articles and newspaper stories that are available all over the world," he said.

"There is some correspondence by Mrs. (Marguerite) Oswald. There are no original Lee Harvey Oswald letters. There are some original manuscripts, but they are confusing."

Parham said the collection is being treated no differently than any other collection and that as soon as the there is time enough and staff enough, the collection

will be organized and cataloged.

A decision was made some time ago to allow reporters from the *Star-Telegram*, *Dallas Morning News* and *Dallas Times Herald* to see the collection.

Jerry Flemmons of the *Star-Telegram* examined the collection for about four hours, Parham said.

Flemmons confirmed that the collection is largely press clippings and articles from various magazines.

Some of the materials from the collection have been put on display at the TCU library for the 20th anniversary of Kennedy's assassination, he said.



Associated Press

JUNE OSWALD PORTER

(A close friend of the family told me that when they arrived at Marguerite's house after her death, her entire library had already been removed. Left behind, strangely, were many empty reels of recording tape. Apparently Robert, or his representatives, had gotten there first. In the last years of her life Marguerite trusted no one, although Parham had befriended her. There may, indeed, have been some sort of indication that she wanted her library to go to TCU, but there was no written will or statement that has ever been produced.)

DMN 11-21-83

Disgruntled backers killed JFK, Soviet newspaper says

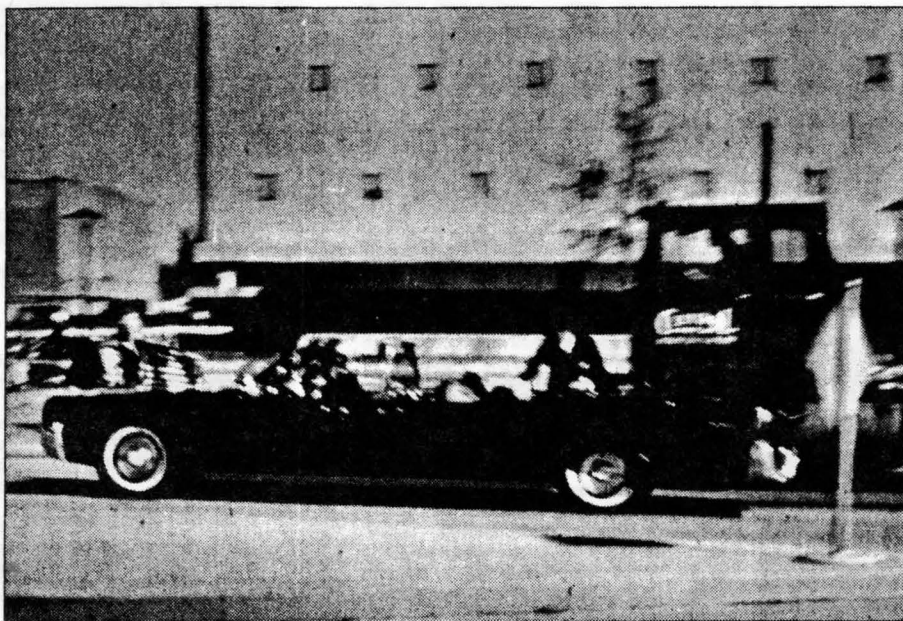
Reuters

MOSCOW — A leading Soviet daily said Sunday that President John F. Kennedy, assassinated 20 years ago Tuesday, was killed by those who placed him in power because he had ceased to serve their interests fully.

In an analysis of the Kennedy era, the daily *Sovetskaya Rossia* (Soviet Russia) said the facts be-

hind Kennedy's death remained unknown.

But the newspaper said that "one thing is beyond doubt: Kennedy was, in the final analysis, removed by those who placed him in his post. For the leading circles of the U.S.A. he remained a 'model president' till he began, albeit timidly, to encroach on their interests."



Just after 12:30 p.m.: The presidential limousine races past the Trade Mart on its way to Parkland Memorial Hospital.

Did Oswald ACT ALONE?

Twenty years later, the question remains ■ *by Earl Golz*

AFTER 20 years of debate and dead ends, the question of who shot Kennedy is still very much alive. Conspiracy theorists point to numerous loose ends, unanswered questions, obvious deceptions. Was Lee Harvey Oswald a Soviet spy? Did he double-cross the CIA? Was he the pawn of organized crime? Did he act alone, or did he act at all? Nothing has fueled the assassination controversy more than the paradox of Oswald, the ex-Marine and avowed Marxist. He didn't fit the mold of a conspirator to be trusted with such an awesome task as killing a president. Yet he seemed too much of a dolt to have done it alone. He is the paramount mystery, and because of executioner Jack Ruby, he will remain so forever.

Critics have doubted the lone-assassin theory since

the assassination. Their questions have not only remained unanswered, they have proliferated. The more we learn about the events of November 22, 1963, the less we know about what actually happened.

Private researchers with their noses to the conspiracy trail as well as sanctioned government bodies—notably, the U.S. House Assassinations Committee—have poked the 1964 Warren Commission Report full of holes. G. Robert Blakey, chief counsel for the 1978-79 House probe, has said that the Warren Commission was “fundamentally wrong” in stating that Lee Harvey Oswald was solely responsible for shooting Kennedy. By not telling the American public that “We’re not sure wheth-

er others were involved,” Blakey believes, “the Warren Commission let into our society a kind of poison that has run through the body politic ever since.”

If the ensuing years have cast doubts on our government's methods and motives in investigating Kennedy's death, they have also cast the world in a new light. Global intelligence operations have come under the glare of the Freedom of Information Act. We know things now that we never dreamed of in 1963. Who could have foreseen that the Soviet Union would one day be accused of plotting to kill the pope, using a terrorist from Turkey as a hired gun? Does Soviet complicity in the assassination of a president now seem so preposterous?

For that matter, who knew in 1963 that our own CIA had orchestrated international assassination schemes? One member of the Warren Commission, former CIA Director Allen Dulles, knew of the death plots, but he never spoke up. Why did Dulles remain silent when it was obvious that such a formidable target as Fidel Castro might have retaliated in Dallas?

Yet, despite the doubts, even Blakey's House Committee couldn't find sufficient evidence to name any conspirators other than Oswald. For reasons not very compatible with information uncovered by the committee, the panel ruled out the possibility of the Soviet or Cuban governments being involved. The panel didn't, however, ignore the “possibility” of conspiratorial involvement by individual members of organized crime or anti-Castro groups—including some rogue elements of American intelligence.

It's difficult to understand why, with the tremendous resources of two heavily financed, government-backed probes, the issue of who killed Kennedy has never been put to rest. But the mystery—at least, in many minds—lingers.

The Russian Riddles

In 1959, Lee Harvey Oswald traveled to Russia in a self-imposed exile that lasted more than two years. The U.S. State Department paid his way back. Two days after Oswald's return-tickets were issued in June 1962, Soviet KGB Officer Yuri Nosenko first talked of defecting to the CIA.

Two months after the Kennedy assassination, Nosenko defected to the United States, claiming that he “personally superintended” the KGB file on Oswald in Russia. Nosenko insisted that Soviet police considered Oswald unstable. The KGB, he maintained, never debriefed the American upon his entry to Russia and never dreamed of using him as an agent.

In 1964, the FBI found what it believed was confirmation of Nosenko's story from a Soviet diplomat in New York who was then a highly trusted double agent. But in 1980, the FBI re-evaluated its source (code-named “Fedora”) and found him to be a triple agent with allegiances still in the Soviet Union. Fedora returned permanently to Russia before the FBI could complete its in-house probe.

There are other discrepancies that suggest that Oswald may have meant more to the Russians than Nosenko avowed. One is the dubious authenticity of Oswald's “historic diary”—found among his possessions after the assassination. The diary contains the only written information about Oswald from January 1960 to March 1961, that time he spent in the Soviet Union. In 1978, handwriting experts told the House Assassinations Committee that the diary was written by Oswald, but that it was written on the same paper and in a continuous pattern in one or two sittings. Yet, the possibility of a forgery is substantiated by dates and events described in the diary that occurred well after the time in which Oswald supposedly wrote them. Oswald's wife, Marina, testified that he brought the diary with him when he returned to the United States, making it seem feasible that if it was a fabrication, it had been concocted in Russia.

Did Oswald return to the United States from Russia in 1962 as a “sleeper,” a Soviet agent *provocateur*? Why did he refuse an FBI request within a month of his arrival to take a polygraph test to determine whether he had dealt with Soviet intelligence forces? Why didn't the FBI disclose the incident to the Warren Commission two years later?

The polygraph test was requested by FBI

agent John W. Fain during an interview with Oswald in Fort Worth. Despite being questioned in detail by commission members Gerald Ford and Allen Dulles, Fain never revealed his exchange with Oswald concerning the lie detector test. He did reveal that after a two-hour interview, Oswald promised to notify Fain if he was contacted by Soviet agents in this country "under suspicious circumstances or otherwise." After the assassination, the FBI stated consistently that Oswald never reported any such contact.

In 1975, however, after a 12-year silence, the FBI was forced to acknowledge that Oswald *did* contact its Dallas office several weeks before the assassination. According to the FBI, he left a threatening note but was not arrested or even questioned. Nancy Fenner, then a secretary in the FBI office, recalled that, in the note, Oswald threatened to "blow up" the place if FBI agent James Hosty continued "bothering" his wife. Hours after Ruby killed Oswald, the note was secretly destroyed. Hosty later claimed that he was ordered not to mention the note by the Dallas agent-in-charge, J. Gordon Shanklin. In 1975, Shanklin testified that he could not remember the incident.

At about the same time the note was destroyed, another disappearing act involving the FBI occurred. In a search of Oswald's old Marine sea bag soon after the assassination, Dallas police detective Gus Rose found a Minox camera—a miniature piece of equipment often used for espionage work—loaded with film. The German-made camera and film were listed in the Dallas police inventory and in an initial FBI log.

After the property was delivered to the FBI laboratory in Washington, D.C., however, the listing was changed to read "Minox light meter." The FBI tried unsuccessfully to pressure Rose into reporting that he had found a light meter, not a camera. Later, the FBI entered into its records the existence of a Minox camera—claiming that it was not Oswald's but was the property of someone in the Irving house in which Oswald's sea bag had been stored. In 1978, under a Freedom of Information Act request, the FBI released 25 photographs developed from two rolls of Minox camera film found among Oswald's possessions 15 years earlier. More than 20 prints from one roll showed civilian scenes apparently taken in Europe; five shots from the other roll depicted military locations either in the Far East or in Central America.

Even more disturbing is information that has been brought out regarding a meeting between Oswald and the Soviet KGB officer for assassination and sabotage in the Western Hemisphere, Valeriy Kostikov, two months before Kennedy's death. The CIA apparently monitored contact between Oswald and the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City during September 1963.

The public wasn't made aware of the meeting and the nature of Kostikov's KGB role until 12 years later. When the Senate Intelligence Committee declassified a CIA account of Oswald's Mexico City contacts in 1976, it charged that the FBI's Soviet experts in Washington in 1963 had information about Kostikov's mission. The committee found it "most surprising" that the FBI "did not intensify their efforts in the Oswald case" after being informed that Oswald had met with Kostikov.

The final report of the House Assassinations Committee in 1979 mentioned Kostikov only once in its 307 pages concerning the Kennedy killing. It stated that Oswald met with "an individual possibly identified as Soviet Consul Kostikov" in Mexico City, but made no mention of his ominous KGB role. A 300-page report published by the committee, entitled "Lee Harvey Oswald, the CIA and Mexico City," remains classified.

Despite the official silences, it appears that former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover harbored suspicions about Oswald in Mexico City—after the fact. Early in 1964, Hoover dispatched an undercover agent, Morris Childs, to Cuba to interview Castro. Masquerading as a member of the U.S. Communist Party, Childs (code-named "Solo") returned with word that Castro had accused Oswald, while in Mexico City, of vowing in the presence of Cuban Consulate officials to assassinate Kennedy. The theory is

that the Cubans would have relayed such a threat to the Russians, and, after learning of Oswald's remark, the Soviets' KGB agent in charge of assassination and sabotage agreed to talk with Oswald.

"First of all, Oswald said [to the Cubans] that he wanted to do it [kill Kennedy]," former FBI agent James Hosty said. "Then he met with Kostikov. And then he did it [eight weeks later]. Now, that doesn't prove anything. But it sure doesn't look good."

Links with Organized Crime

As early as fall 1962, Mafia overlords were rumored to have muttered threats on Kennedy's life. Their hatred of Kennedy drew a double-edged sword. On the one hand, they were angered by Kennedy's botched Bay of Pigs invasion during spring 1962. Mafia leaders had suffered when Castro came to power and had closed their gambling casinos in Cuba. They felt betrayed when Kennedy let Castro off the hook.

Most bitter was Santos Trafficante, the La Cosa Nostra leader in Florida and the mob's chief liaison to criminal figures within the Cuban exile community. Not only had Trafficante lost considerable gambling properties in Havana, but he also was imprisoned by the Cuban revolutionary government. After his release from prison, Trafficante recruited Cuban nationals to assist in the CIA's efforts to assassinate Castro. In September 1962, the FBI received word through an informant, José Aleman, that Trafficante had put out the word that Kennedy was "going to be hit."

Other irate mobsters were potential victims of Robert Kennedy's war on organized crime. One prime target, James Hoffa, was facing a prison sentence when he discussed plans to kill the president's brother, according to tape recordings made by Teamsters officer Grady Partin. One of Hoffa's plans, it states, was to shoot Robert Kennedy using the telescopic sight of a rifle as he rode in a convertible in a South-eastern city.

A friend of Hoffa's and Trafficante's, New Orleans boss Carlos Marcello, had tasted the vengeance of RFK's crackdown on crime. He had been snatched from his home streets by federal agents, then deported to Guatemala. Marcello had ample reason to want to bring the Kennedys down, and he reportedly favored going after the president, citing an old Sicilian adage that "to kill a rooster you don't cut off the tail, you cut off the head." Marcello spoke of using "some nut" to take the blame and to avoid any suspicion of a Mafia hit.

One of Marcello's men in New Orleans was Charles "Dutz" Murret, Oswald's uncle. In April 1963, Oswald stayed at the Murrets' home when he moved to New Orleans to look for a job. Conspiracy theorists have pointed to Murret as Oswald's conduit to highly placed figures in organized crime.

Cuban Connections

The five months that Oswald spent in New Orleans were marked by his unusual ambivalence toward Castro. One day, he'd be passing out pro-Castro leaflets; another day would find him begging to join the CIA-backed anti-Castro forces training nearby. In a way, Oswald's actions reflected the Kennedy administration's contradictory stance toward Cuba throughout 1963.

Shortly before Oswald moved to New Orleans, Cuban refugees were warned that Kennedy would no longer tolerate the refugees' use of the United States as a base for Cuban attacks. The FBI stepped up its raids on the exile guerrilla training camps. Dr. Jose Cardona of Miami resigned as president of the anti-Castro Cuban Revolutionary Council, claiming that Kennedy had promised a new invasion of Cuba after the Bay of Pigs.

By mid-June 1963, the Kennedy administration reversed gears and gave the CIA permission to revive a "secret war" of sabotage against Cuba. Although Kennedy didn't endorse the idea of assassinating Castro, the CIA rekindled its hit-plans on the sly. But by September, the pendulum had swung back again.

Oswald showed an interest in joining the anti-Castro forces. In July, he visited New Orleans leader Ernesto Rodriguez Jr. Rodriguez said that Oswald told him that he "was interested in the Cubans and the Cuban [anti-

Castro] cause, and that he wanted to be able to help—that he was an ex-Marine." Oswald was "aware that there was a training camp across the lake from us, north of Lake Pontchartrain, and he wanted to get into that," Rodriguez said.

But at the same time, Oswald joined the Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC), a pro-Castro organization headquartered in New York. Oswald wrote FPCC national director Vincent T. Lee in New York, stating that he had rented an office for a one-man chapter in New Orleans, but that it "was promptly closed three days later for some obscure reason by the renters." To this day, no one knows where that office was located.

Oswald was arrested 10 days later while distributing pro-Castro FPCC literature in downtown New Orleans. He was charged with disturbing the peace during a scuffle with anti-Castro Cuban exile Carlos Bringuier. Ironically, Oswald had met Bringuier a few days earlier regarding his desire to train Cuban exiles.

From his jail cell, Oswald told a New Orleans police intelligence officer that he "was desirous of seeing an agent [of the FBI] and supplying to him information with regard to his activities with the FPCC in New Orleans," according to an FBI report suppressed from the public until 1977. Agent John Quigley talked to Oswald in his cell for about 90 minutes, then left with some of his FPCC literature. The address, "FPCC, 544 Camp Street, New Orleans, La.," was stamped on the last page of one of the pamphlets that Quigley was given. A few days later, an FBI informant sent a second copy with the same rubber-stamped address.

The incongruity of Oswald staging his pro-Castro show out of 544 Camp must have raised an eyebrow or two at the FBI. Agents knew of another tenant in the shoddy three-story building: W. Guy Banister, former Chicago FBI chief and rabid anti-Communist. Banister's "private detective agency" was actually a cover for his role as liaison between the CIA and Cuban anti-Castro exiles.

The FBI told the Warren Commission that it was unable "to connect Oswald with that address" despite the stamp on the back of FPCC pamphlets. As for Banister (who died of a heart attack seven months after the assassination), the FBI never placed him at 544 Camp. The FBI obscured Banister's location from the Warren Commission by listing his office at 531 Lafayette Street—the side entrance to the building at 544 Camp.

Banister's secretary, Delphine Roberts, said she interviewed Oswald during the summer of 1963 for the position of "undercover agent." Oswald, Roberts said, was given an office for his FPCC work directly above Banister's. When Roberts saw Oswald passing out pro-Castro literature on the street, Banister assured her "not to worry about him. He's a nervous fellow; he's confused. He's with us."

A frequent visitor to the building was David W. Ferrie, who used an office to the rear of Banister's, Roberts said. Ferrie was a part-time "investigator" for one of Marcello's attorneys. Two years earlier, Ferrie had piloted the plane that flew Marcello back from Guatemala after his deportation. He also had ties to the CIA: he had trained pilots for the Bay of Pigs invasion launched from Guatemala.

Roberts says that Ferrie had worked under Banister as "a detective agent." "I don't know exactly what work he actually did. I don't know whether he was running guns or whether he worked for Banister." She says that Ferrie talked with Oswald at the offices "as if he knew him—I won't say intimately." She also recalls Ferrie and Oswald going to rifle practice together at an anti-Castro training camp.

On the day of the assassination, Ferrie was with Marcello in a New Orleans courtroom at a hearing on the deportation case. After the hearing, he and two others left by car and drove to East Texas to "ice-skate and hunt geese." After driving all night, they pulled into a Houston ice-skating rink, where Ferrie waited for almost two hours at a pay telephone. The phone rang, Ferrie answered it and after a brief conversation, the trio left.

Three days after the assassination, Ferrie surrendered himself for questioning of the shooting in Dallas. New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison released him shortly after

the FBI discredited a witness who accused Ferrie of teaching Oswald how to fire a rifle. Garrison publicly implicated Ferrie as a chief suspect in 1967. Within days, Ferrie died.

Another secretary in Banister's office, Mary Brengel, remembers seeing rifles propped up against the wall of Banister's office and "how they talked over different qualities [of the weapons] in hushed tones over long hours." As of the day of the assassination, those guns were gone.

Oswald was never grilled about his ties with Cuban exiles or organized crime. He lived only two days after the assassination, all the while claiming he was a "patsy" in the affair. Dallas nightclub owner Jack Ruby, who silenced Oswald with one shot, was judged by the Warren Commission to be another loner, spurred to kill by patriotism and sorrow.

The House Assassinations Committee discovered that Ruby had mob ties dating back to the Thirties, in Chicago where he grew up. The panel also stated that Ruby made as many as three mob-related trips to Cuba just after Castro took control. It is thought that Ruby might have met with Trafficante in a Cuban jail. Ruby was known to have been a good friend of Joe Civello, reputed Mafia chief in Dallas in 1963. During the two months before the assassination, he made a series of long-distance telephone calls to acquaintances of Hoffa and Marcello.

Questions of Evidence

While the questions of crime and intelligence links are still troubling many assassination researchers, the issue of who fired how many shots in Dealey Plaza is just as vexing. Many people believe that Oswald didn't fire a shot. Author Henry Hurt (who is in the process of writing a book on conspiracy theories) found "almost no evidence that Oswald had any capacity for violence. You have the FBI arguing that he did." Oswald's closest associate in Dallas, George de Mohrenschildt, thought that one reason Oswald was innocent of the assassination was that he "actually admired President Kennedy in his own reserved way." Oswald's wife, Marina, repeatedly referred to her husband's admiration of Kennedy in testimony before the Warren Commission and the House Assassinations Committee.

Potentially explosive evidence of an assassination conspiracy not necessarily involving Oswald was discovered in 1978, when an amateur photographer re-examined some movie film he shot as the presidential motorcade moved into Dealey Plaza. Studying his film in slow motion, Charles L. Bronson realized for the first time that he had 92 frames showing the sixth-floor window of the Texas School Book Depository in which Oswald supposedly was perched at that moment. The eight seconds of window footage were shot about six minutes before Kennedy was slain.

Bronson's film was given an examination by Robert J. Groden, a photo consultant to the House Assassinations Committee. In a memo to the committee, Groden said that "close inspection and optical enhancement reveals definite movement in at least two and probably three of the windows in question."

Bronson's film was first viewed by the FBI within days of the assassination, but it was returned to Bronson when an agent said that it "failed to show the building from which the shots were fired." When the House Assassinations Committee learned of the film (about two months before its term expired), the panel had spent almost all of its allotted \$5 million. Unable to afford a proper computer analysis to determine whether the figures moving in the windows were people, the committee recommended further scientific examination by the U.S. Department of Justice. An FBI agent who spoke with Bronson's attorney in late 1979 was unable to negotiate a temporary release of the film and hasn't been back since.

Many unsettling aspects of Kennedy's death still hang in the air: Do police Dictabelt recordings indicate that a fourth shot was fired from the grassy knoll? Is there significance in the fact that a known French terrorist was in Dallas on the day of the assassination? Perhaps the most disturbing question of all remains: Will the damning and intricate facts of Oswald's life ever be enough to indict a conspirator beyond a shadow of a doubt?

Interest in Oswald's perch grows as fateful date nears

By Debra Martine
Staff Writer of The News

For the past few years, the sixth floor of the former Texas School Book Depository has stood locked and virtually ignored — the subject of only one or two inquiries each week.

As the 20th anniversary of the Kennedy assassination grows nearer, however, requests to see the place where Lee Harvey Oswald fired the shots that killed President John F. Kennedy have increased dramatically as reporters and photographers from all over the world converge on Dallas to cover the event.

"Oh, honest, it's unbelievable," said Lindalyn Adams, president of the Dallas County Historical Foundation, the only group that has keys to enter the sixth floor.

"We have two or three calls a

day from people wanting to go up there (to the sixth floor)," Mrs. Adams said. "In July, we only got about one call a week."

Mrs. Adams said the demand is a result of the media's interest in reporting the 20th anniversary of the assassination.

"I had a reporter and cameraman from Boston come in Thursday, and I've got people from Brazil scheduled to go up Nov. 11," said Mrs. Adams.

The foundation made a decision to open the floor just for news media covering the 20th anniversary of the assassination, Mrs. Adams said.

"People from all over the world have called wanting to go up there. It's been hectic. We (historical commission members) are just volunteers," she said.

Mrs. Adams said requests to visit the sixth floor began picking up in October. Since then, more than 45

reporters, writers and photographers from as far away as London, Australia, Sweden and The Netherlands have made appointments to see the floor.

The first two floors of the seven-story building were renovated in 1981 to house the county commissioners court. All other floors remain off-limits to the public. The building's elevator goes only to the second floor. All other floors have to be reached from a rear stairway.

The sixth floor is especially untouched, Mrs. Adams said. No electricity or air conditioning has been installed on the floor that once housed old school books. Aside from a few old corrugated boxes lying on a dusty, empty floor, the room is roughly the same as it was Nov. 22, 1963, she said.

By late 1985, a \$3 million John F. Kennedy museum will be completed on that floor, Mrs. Adams said. The museum will include exhibits recounting the assassina-

tion.

Fascination with the building's historical significance always has been great, according to county employees working in the building. They talk of the persistent news crews, the curious tourists, the history buffs wanting to see where history was made.

"We have some people who come in here wanting to see upstairs and they're real persistent," said Sylvia Martinez, assistant to Dallas County Judge Frank Crowley. "They say they've just got to get up there. We have to tell them we're sorry, that they can't go up there. Then they ask if there's any other way to get up to the floor besides the elevator."

Mrs. Adams said she expects to get more requests to tour the site as Nov. 22 gets nearer.

"We expect more media people to ask to go," she said. "We've had five visitors in the past four days and November's not over yet."

BRIEFS....The 20th anniversary brought out a lot of material, much of it very useful; the Wesley Frazier interview, for example, is his first in at least 8 years - and now he says LHO asked for a ride home on Wednesday 11-20, not Thursday as he told the WC. The jog up Houston to Elm was unknown at that time, and the limousine on Main would have been an exceptionally difficult shot; also, Frazier still doubts LHO did it, but the reporter didn't ask why.... Was Charles Harrelson the Tall Tramp? His brother and mother, both surprised at the strong physical resemblance in the photos, say no; despite a FWST story, brother Claude was never an FBI agent, but he has been in law enforcement capacities for many years - researchers J. Gary Shaw and writer Henry Hurt recently interviewed him in Houston....The infamous

John DeLorean video tapes, leaked to CBS just before the trial was to begin, may have come from an interesting source - NBC News reported they were thought to have originated with Anthony Pellicano, a Chicago-based acoustics expert who questioned the validity of the BBN study before it was completed; Pellicano denied being the source, even though he did have possession of the incriminating tapes, which the FBI had given to him for audio enhancement....One major problem with computer enhancement of photos is finding an organization with the credentials and equipment that does not have extensive ties to either the military or intelligence community - in fact, it cannot be done....Have you noticed that JFK assassination books, which used to be found in bookstores under current events, are now located in the history section?

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